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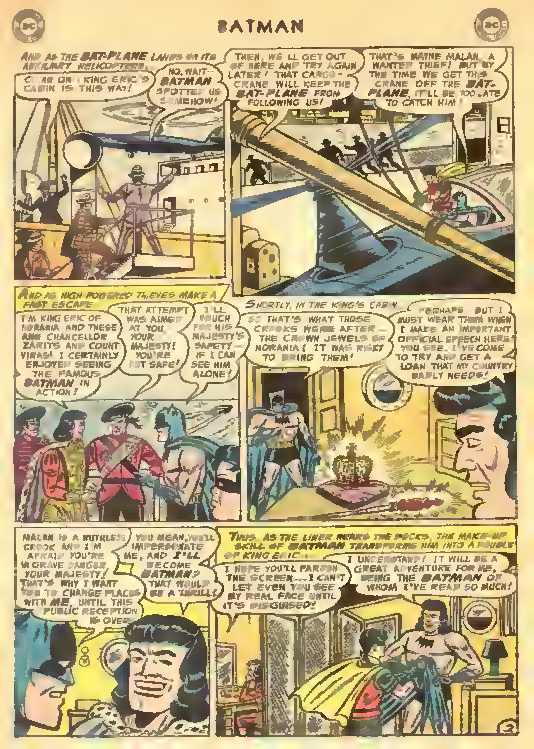
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to Alien Lan Kaufe. Entire contents copyrighted 1955 by National Comics Publications, Inc. Publication title registered by Alfred A. Feldon & Co. 295 East 42nd St. New York 17, N.Y. Except for persons who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely fictitious and no identification with actual persons, living or dead is intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.


AND AS THE BAT-PLANE LANDS ON ITS AIRFIELD HELICOPTER...
C. AS OH! KING ERIC'S CABIN IS THIS WAY!
NO, WAIT-BATMAN SPOTTED US SOMEHOW!
THEN WE'LL GET OUT OF HERE AND TRY AGAIN LATER! THAT CARGO-CRANE WILL KEEP THE BAT-PLANE FROM FOLLOWING US!
THAT'S WAYNE MALAN, A MINETA THIEF! BUT BY THE TIME WE GET THIS CRANE OFF THE BAT-PLANE, IT'LL BE TOO LATE TO CATCH HIM!
AND AS HIGH-POWERED THIEVES MAKE A FAST ESCAPE...
I'M KING ERIC OF NORANIA AND THESE ARE CHANCELLOR BARTHOLD AND COUNT VIRAG! I CERTAINLY ENJOYED SEEING THE FAMOUS BATMAN IN ACTION!
THAT ATTEMPT WAS AIMED AT YOU, YOUR MAJESTY! YOU'RE NOT SAFE!
I'LL SEE MUCH FOR HIS MAJESTY'S SAFETY IF I CAN SEE HIM ALONE!
SHORTLY, IN THE KING'S CABIN...
SO THAT'S WHAT THOSE CROOKS WERE AFTER— THE CROWN JEWELS OF NORANIA! IT WAS RIGHT TO BRING THEM!
PERHAPS... BUT I MUST WEAR THEM WHEN I MAKE AN IMPORTANT OFFICIAL SPEECH HERE AND SEE...I'VE DECIDED TO TRY AND GET A LOAN THAT MY COUNTRY BADLY NEEDS!
MALAN IS A RUTHLESS CROOK, MY LORD! YOU'RE IN GRAVE DANGER, YOUR MAJESTY! THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU TO CHANGE PLACES WITH ME, UNTIL THIS PUBLIC RECEPTION IS OVER!
YOU MEAN, YOU'LL IMPERSONATE ME, AND I'LL BECOME BATMAN'S PRISONER? THAT WILL BE A THRILL!
THEN, AS THE LINER NEARS THE DOCKS, THE MAKE-UP SKILL OF BATMAN TRANSFORMS HIM INTO A DUPLICATE OF KING ERIC...
I HOPE YOU'LL PARDON THE SCREEN—I CAN'T LET EVEN YOU SEE MY REAL FACE UNTIL IT'S DISGUISED!
I'M CERTAINLY IT WILL BE A GREAT ADVENTURE FOR ME, BEING THE BATMAN OF WHOM I'VE READ SO MUCH!

AND PRESENTLY, GOTHAM CITY HOLDS A TRADITIONAL TICKER-TAPE RECEPTION TO A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR

TO DRIVE THE BATMOBILE AS I WEAR THIS COSTUME IT'S NEVER HAD A THRILL LIKE THIS!

THE WORST PERILS WILL BE PAST WHEN THIS PUBLIC RECEPTION IS OVER AND WE CAN RE-EXCHANGE IDENTITIES!

BUT LATER IN THE GOTHAM CITY MANSION LOANED TO KING ERIC, BATMAN FINDS IT'S EASIER TO START PLAYING KING THAN TO STOP...

NO, I WANT TO KEEP ON BEING BATMAN—ER—I MEAN, I WANT YOU TO PLAY MY PART TILL THOSE CROOKS ARE CAUGHT AND ALL DANGER IS OVER!

PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT, ROBIN. KILLMORE AFTER YOU AND I WHO CAN STAY READILY PRETENDING TO GUARD ME!

BATMAN HAS FACED REPORTERS BEFORE—BUT NOT AS ROYALTY

HAY! WE HAVE A PICTURE OF YOU IN YOUR CROWN, KING ERIC!

HIS MAJESTY WEARS THE CROWN ONLY ON STATE OCCASIONS! HE'LL WEAR IT TOMORROW WHEN HE MAKES A SPEECH TO YOUR COUNTRY FOR TELEVISION CITY AND NOT UNTIL THEN!

HMM—THAT SPEECH IS NEWS TO ME AND IT COULD MEAN TROUBLE!

BUT A BIGGER PUZZLE AWAITS BATMAN WHEN HE REPAIRS TO HIS PRIVATE SUITE...

WHY, THE JEWELS IN THIS CROWN AND SCEPTER ARE FAKE! I CAN'T BE JUST A SAFETY PRECAUTION... NO, THEY HAVE TOLD ME ABOUT IT! LOOKS LIKE THE JEWELS HAVE ALREADY BEEN STOLEN... BUT BY WHOM!

SAFE ALL NIGHT! I'LL KEEP WATCH ON THE TRUSTED OFFICIALS ONLY EXPECTED!

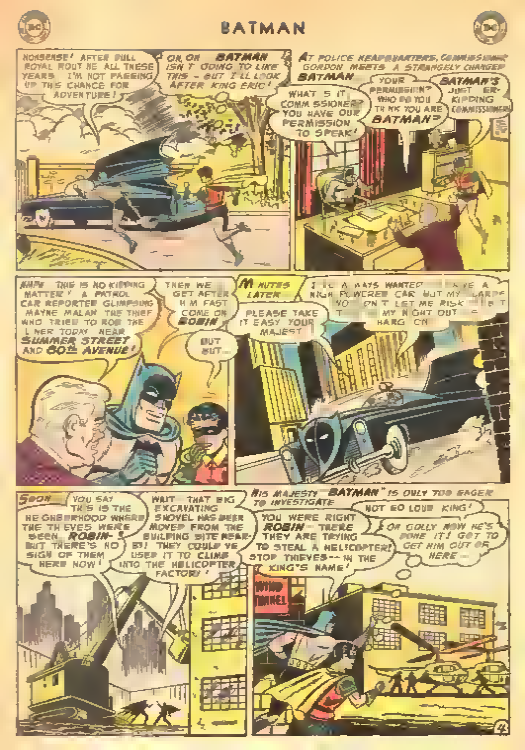
BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO INSPECT THE CROWN AND SCEPTER AGAIN! THEY WERE INSPECTED BEFORE WE SAILED AND ONLY THE TRUSTED HAD ACCESS TO THEM!

OH, OF COURSE! IF THAT'S TRUE THE FAKE GEMS WERE SUBSTITUTED DURING THE VOYAGE BUT BY WHICH MAN? I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT! WONDER WHERE ROBIN IS?

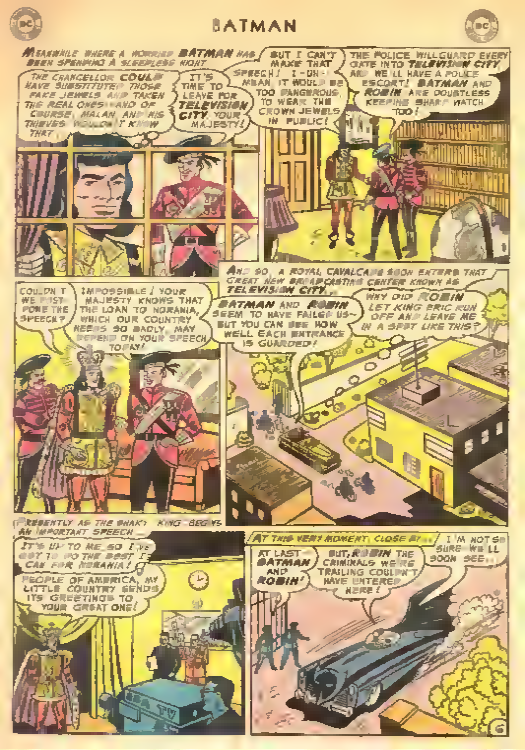
TO HIS DISMAY ROBIN IS BURDENED WITH A KING OF MONARCHS!

LOOK THE BAT SIGNAL! I'VE HEARD ALL ABOUT IT... WE MUST ANSWER ITS SUMMONS AT ONCE!

BUT YOUR MAJESTY I MEAN—ER—BATMAN... YOU SHOULD STAY HERE!


NONSENSE! AFTER BULL ROMAN, YOU'LL BE ALL THESE YEARS. I'M NOT PASSING UP THIS CHANCE FOR ADVENTURE!
OR ON BATMAN ISN'T GOING TO LIKE THIS - BUT I'LL LOOK AFTER KING ERIC!
WOOF!
AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, COMMISSIONER GORDON MEETS A STRANGELY CHANGED BATMAN
YOUR PERMISSION? WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE BATMAN?
BATMAN'S JUST BEEN KIDDING COMMISSIONER!
WHAT'S IT COMMISSIONER? YOU HAVE OUR PERMISSION TO SPEAK!
AIEEE! THIS IS NO KIDDING MATTER! A PHOTOGRAPHIC CAR REPORTER GLIMPSING WAYNE MALAN THE THIEF WHO TRIED TO ROB THE INNER TODAY NEAR SUMMER STREET AND 80TH AVENUE!
THEN WE GET AFTER HIM FAST! COME ON BOBBIN!
BUT BUT...
MINUTES LATER
I'D A WAYS WANTED TO HAVE A RICH POWERED CAR... BUT MY CAR'S NOT ON! LET ME PUSH IT TO MY RIGHT OUT OF HARD ON
SOON YOU SAY THIS IS THE NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE THE EYES WERE SEEN, ROBIN? BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF THEM HERE NOW!
WAIT! THAT BIG EXCAVATING SHOVEL HAS BEEN MOVED FROM THE BUILDING SITE NEAR BY! THEY COULD'VE USED IT TO CLIMB INTO THE HELICOPTER FACTORY!
HIS MAJESTY "BATMAN" IS ONLY TOO EAGER TO INVESTIGATE.
NOT SO LOUD, KING!
YOU WERE RIGHT, ROBIN - THERE THEY ARE TRYING TO STEAL A HELICOPTER! STOP THEM! - IN THE KING'S NAME!
OR GOLLY NOW HE'S DONE IT! I'VE GOT TO GET HIM OUT OF HERE -
BEHIND TUNNEL


BUT WHOA ARE WE! I'M GIVING CRIMERS NOT TAKING THEM!
HE'S THE ONE THAT'LL GET TRAMPED- BUT WE WON'T LISTEN TO ME. HMM- TURN SKYLIGHT HATCHES ON THE ROOF.
HA, WE FRIGHTENED THEM! COME ROBIN- WE CAN TRAP THEM IN THIS BUILDING!
AS THE CROOKS ENTER THE BUILDING...
THAT WAS SMART WORK RECOVING HIM INTO THE BIG WIND TUNNEL!
BUT WHERE'S THE BRAT?
NEVER MIND HIM WE GOT BATMAN! I'LL JUST TURN THE AIR-BLAST ON FULL AND...
SO BY THE TIME ROBIN CAN RESUME THE CHASE...
THEY'VE ESCAPED! BUT PERHAPS WE CAN KEEP THAT HELICOPTER IN SIGHT FROM THE BATMOBILE
NOT A CHANCE! WHAT WE'VE GOT TODO NOW IS FIGURE OUT WHY THEY STOLE AND YOU HAVE TO GET BACK AND RE EXCHANGE IDENTITIES WITH BATMAN SO YOU CAN MAKE YOUR TV SPEECH!
WHAT NO TIME FOR THAT HERE COMES ROBIN! AND THAT HELICOPTER IS MORE IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW THAN BATMAN! COME ON!
CAN'T FOLLOW THEM- MUST GET THE WIND OUT OF THAT WING FLAME AT ONCE!
UNLESS THEY USE BATMAN AND ROBIN WOULD EXPECT THEM TO!
OH NO- I'M HAVING MUCH TOO GOOD A TIME! I'M A POOR SPEAKER ANYWAY BATMAN CAN MAKE A BETTER SPEECH THAN IF HE WAS TO!
WHEW THIS EXPERIENCE HASN'T TAUGHT THEM ANYTHING! WELL BATMAN WON'T KEEP ME AWAY! SINCE TELEVISION CITY WILL BE RINGED WITH SNIPERS FOR THE ROYAL ARDNESS AND NO CROOKS CAN GET IN THERE
OKAY LET'S GO KING ER. BATMAN! I SEE NOW WHAT THE CROOKS PLAN IS WE'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST!
CARRY ON!


MEANWHILE WHERE A WORRIED BATMAN HAS BEEN SPENDING A SLEEPLESS NIGHT...
THE CHANCELLOR COULD HAVE SUBSTITUTED THOSE FAKE JEWELS AND TAKEN THE REAL ONES! AND OF COURSE, MALAN AND HIS THIEVES WOULDN'T KNOW THAT!
IT'S TIME TO LEAVE FOR TELEVISION CITY, YOUR MAJESTY!
BUT I CAN'T MAKE THAT SPEECH! I - UH - MEAN IT WOULD BE TOO DANGEROUS TO WEAR THE CROWN JEWELS IN PUBLIC!
THE POLICE WILL GUARD EVERY INCH OF THE WAY INTO TELEVISION CITY, AND WE'LL HAVE A POLICE ESCORT! BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE DOUBTLESS KEEPING SHARP WATCH, TOO!
AND SO, A ROYAL CAVALCADE SOON ENTERS THAT GREAT HIGH RECREATIONAL CENTER KNOWN AS TELEVISION CITY...
WHY DID ROBIN LET KING PRIC RUN OFF AND LEAVE ME IN A SPOT LIKE THIS?
BATMAN AND ROBIN SEEM TO HAVE FAILED US- BUT YOU CAN SEE HOW WELL EACH ENTRANCE IS GUARDED!
COULDN'T WE POSTPONE THE SPEECH?
IMPOSSIBLE! YOUR MAJESTY KNOWS THAT THE LOAN TO NORANIA, WHICH OUR COUNTRY NEEDS SO BADLY, MAY DEPEND ON YOUR SPEECH TONIGHT!
PRESENTLY AS THE SHAKY KING BEGINS AN IMPORTANT SPEECH...
IT'S UP TO ME, SO I'VE GOT TO DO THE BEST I CAN FOR NORANIA!
PEOPLE OF AMERICA, MY LITTLE COUNTRY SENDS ITS GREETINGS TO YOUR GREAT ONE!
AT THIS VERY MOMENT, CLOSE BY...
AT LAST BATMAN AND ROBIN!
BUT, ROBIN THE CRIMINALS WE'RE TRAILING COULDN'T HAVE ENTERED HERE!
I'M NOT SO SURE WE'LL SOON SEE...
6


MINUTES LATER IN TELEVISION CITY'S GREAT PROPERTY WAREHOUSE...
WHY ARE YOU COMING TO THIS PLACE?
ALL KINDS OF FAKE AIRPLANES OF CROOKS COULD HAVE BROUGHT THAT STOLEN COPTER IN AT NIGHT AND - AND -
LOOK!
I WAS RIGHT-SEE-?
IT'S TIME BOSS! THE KING'S SPEECH NOW! IT'LL BE A CINCH WITH THE GUARDS ALL OUTSIDE WE'LL GRAB THE JEWELS AND GET AWAY FAST IN THE COPTER!
HOLD IT! THERE'S BATMAN AND ROBIN. WE'VE GOT TO TAKE CARE OF THEM FIRST!
OR, PERHAPS, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU FIRST!
MY ANCESTORS USED SWORDS LIKE THIS TO ROUT RASCALS. I CAN TOO!
NO! DON'T!
I CAN'T STOP HIM! GOT TO STOP THEM, INSTEAD! MAYBE WITH MY PRIVATE ROCKET!
THAT PROP ROCKET WAS COME THE RESCUE IN A LOT OF TV THRILLERS. I HOPE IT DOESN'T FAIL ME!
AN HOUR LATER AS BATMAN FINISHES KING'S ADDRESS...
SO AMERICA AND NORAN A. WE HOPE WE'LL ALWAYS BE FRIENDS!
A GREAT SPEECH, YOUR MAJESTY! THE BEST YOU EVER MADE!
BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE BRINGING CROOKS IN THE PROP WAREHOUSE!


SO SERE SADISTS, YOUR MAJESTY! WE'LL GUARD THE CROWN JEWELS!
YES, WITH OUR LIVES!
THEY WOULDN'T RISK THEIR LIVES TO DEFEND FAKE GEMS! SO NEITHER OF THEM COULD HAVE MADE THE SWITCH!
ALL RIGHT! I'LL BE BACK IN THE NEXT OFFICE!
BUT ONCE ALONE THE "KING" MAKES FAST TRACKS TO A MORE IMPORTANT VICTIM—
BATMAN—I MEAN YOUR MAJESTY! I MEAN—
THAT TRAP TIRED USE IN TY JUNGLE STORIES OUGHT TO BE JUST WHAT WE NEED FOR THESE CHARACTERS!
CUT THE TRIGGER ROPE, BATMAN!
DONE—YOUR MAJESTY!
QUICK! WE CAN RE-EXCHANGE IDENTITIES BEFORE THE OTHERS COME!
I'M SORRY I GAVE YOU ALL THIS TROUBLE, BATMAN—THOUGH I ENJOYED EVERY MINUTE OF IT!
AND SOON, WITH BATMAN HIMSELF AGAIN!...
POWERFUL NEWS, YOUR MAJESTY! YOUR GREAT SPEECH MADE A DEEP IMPRESS...—OFFICIALS HAVE PROMISED ME THAT THE LOAN TO EUSLAVIA WILL GO THROUGH!
YOU'RE THE ONE TO THANK, BATMAN! YOUR WORDS CAN'T EXPRESS HOW MUCH YOU'VE DONE FOR US!
BY THE WAY—YOU HAVE THE REAL JEWELS! HAVEN'T YOU? YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD HAVE SWITCHED THEM!
YES—IN CASE THE LOAN WAS REFUSED I MEANT TO PUT THE JEWELS FOR SECURITY. WITHOUT ANYONE KNOWING! BUT THANKS TO YOUR SPEECH THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY!
SO DAYS LATER, WHEN A GREAT SHIP SETS SAIL...
HE'S A SWELL PERSON AND A KING, ROBIN!
YES—BUT HE'S A TERRIBLE BATMAN! THAT IS ONE JOB NOT EVEN A KING CAN FILL!
THE END

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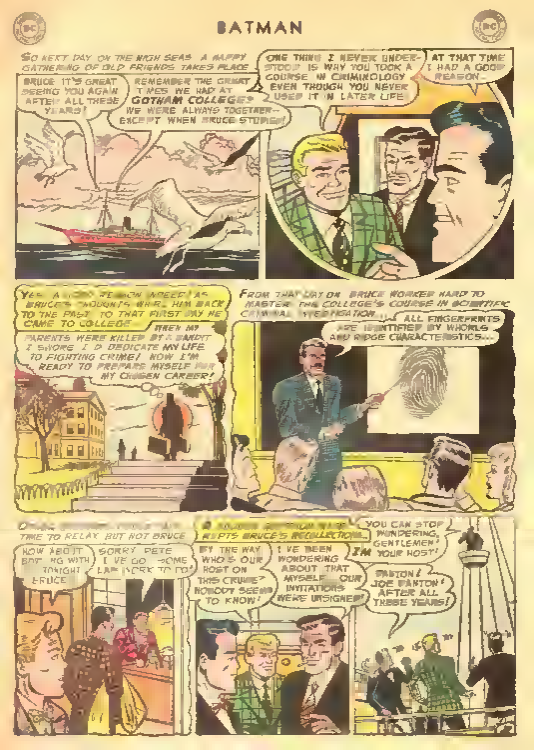
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LITTLE PETE
C'MON, TOODLES, EAT YOUR FOOD!
LOOK, IT'S GOOD -YUM -YUM!
GOSH, IT IS GOOD!
MOM CERTAINLY FIXES NICE FOOD FOR YOU
PETE! DINNER IS READY!
GOSH, MOM, I ATE ALL OF TOODLES' DINNER! LET HIM SIT IN MY PLACE AND EAT MINE NOW!
THE END
"WINGS" SAVES THE MOVIE THEATER
FIRE!
WHAT'LL TURN IN THE ALARM... HE'S WAY AHEAD ALREADY!
HE BEAT ME BY A MILE, IN FACT... MY WINCHESTER SKATES OUTSPEED THEM ALL!
WOW! LOOK AT 'EM!
WE'VE GOT IT LICKED NOW, MAC!
WHOOSE YOUR SPEED SAVED THE MOVIE THEATER
ANYONE SHOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME WITH WINCHESTER ROLLER SKATES!
I'M SO PROUD IT MAKES ME WHISTLE!
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BAT MAN
with ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHERE BRUCE WAYNE WENT TO PREPARE HIMSELF FOR HIS DANGEROUS CAREER AS BATMAN? WHERE AND HOW HE LEARN THE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE HE USES TO TRAP AMOD CRIMINALS? — WHERE DID HE LEARN TO TRAIN HIS BODY UNTIL IT BECAME THE SUPERB FIGHTING MACHINE IT IS TODAY? WHERE? THE ANSWER LIES BACK IN
BATMAN'S COLLEGE DAYS
COLLEGE YEAR BOOK
BESIDE WAYNE STAR ATHLETE, HONOR STUDENT IN CRIMINOLOGY CLASS, HOBBY WAS TO STUDY TRICKS OF A DETECTIVE
ONE MORN N PRICE WAYNE WEALTHY PLAY BOY ANTI G ARDIAN OF YOUNG DICK GRAYSON, RECEIVES AN INTERESTING LETTER
HMM? YOU'VE BEEN INVITED TO A THREE DAY CRUISE ON A YACHT - FOR A REUNION WITH SOME PALS FROM YOUR OLD COLLEGE ATHLETIC TEAMS!
I WISH I COULD SEE SOME OF THE OLD GANG AGAIN BUT I CAN'T TAKE TIME OFF FROM OUR WORK PACK!
THEIR WORK? WHEN THEIR IDENTITIES ARE MASKED, THIS MAN AND YOUTH ARE THOSE FAMED CRIME FIGHTERS, BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER!
IT'S BEEN PRETTY QUIET THESE DAYS, BATMAN I CAN HANDLE ANYTHING THAT MIGHT COME UP SO WHY DON'T YOU GO TO THE REUNION AFTER ALL!
ALL RIGHT- MAYBE I WILL, ROBIN!


SO NEXT DAY ON THE HIGH SEAS, A HAPPY GATHERING OF OLD FRIENDS TAKES PLACE
BRUCE, IT'S GREAT SEEING YOU AGAIN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!
REMEMBER THE GREAT TIMES WE HAD AT GOTHAM COLLEGE? WE WERE ALWAYS TOGETHER—EXCEPT WHEN BRUCE STUDIED!
ONE THING I NEVER UNDERSTOOD IS WHY YOU TOOK A COURSE IN CRIMINOLOGY EVEN THOUGH YOU NEVER USED IT IN LATER LIFE.
AT THAT TIME I HAD A GOOD REASON...
YES, A GOOD REASON INDEED! AS BRUCE'S THOUGHTS TURN BACK TO THE PAST TO THAT FIRST DAY HE CAME TO COLLEGE...
WHEN MY PARENTS WERE KILLED BY A BANDIT, I SWORE I'D DEDICATE MY LIFE TO FIGHTING CRIME! NOW I'M READY TO PREPARE MYSELF FOR MY CHOSEN CAREER!
FROM THAT DAY ON BRUCE WORKED HARD TO MASTER THE COLLEGE'S COURSE IN SCIENTIFIC CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION...
ALL FINGERPRINTS ARE IDENTIFIED BY WHORLS AND RIDGE CHARACTERISTICS...
ONCE AGAIN, THERE'S TIME TO RELAX, BUT NOT BRUCE
HOW ABOUT BOWLING WITH US TONIGHT, BRUCE
SORRY, PETE. I'VE GOT SOME LAB WORK TO DO!
A SHARP SCREAM WAKES BRUCE'S RECOLLECTIONS...
BY THE WAY, WHO'S OUR HOST ON THIS CRUISE? NOBODY SEEMS TO KNOW!
I'VE BEEN WONDERING ABOUT THAT MYSELF. OUR INVITATIONS WERE DESIGNED
I AM YOUR HOST!
YOU CAN STOP WONDERING, GENTLEMEN!
PANTON! JOE PANTON! AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!

AGAIN, BRUCE RECALLS HIS COLLEGE DAYS WHEN HE ALSO TRAINED HIS BODY TO MUSCULAR PERFECTION IN ATHLETIC TEAMS.

NICE GOING, BRUCE — YOU'VE GOT PANTON PINNED DOWN!

IN SHORTS COMPETITION, HIS PATH ALWAYS SEEMS TO CROSS PANTON'S.

COACH WHY'D YOU YANK ME AND PUT IN WAYNE?

YOU'VE BEEN IGNORING SIGNALS. YOU WANT TO CARRY THE BALL ALL THE TIME SO YOU CAN GET ALL THE GLORY. YOU FORGET YOU'RE PLAYING ON A TEAM!

14

NO MATTER WHAT THE GAME, THE RESULT WAS ALWAYS THE SAME.

I CALLED FOR A BUNT — BUT INSTEAD YOU SWUNG FOR THE FENCES AND STRUCK OUT! PANTON WHY CAN'T YOU BE A GOOD TEAM-PLAYER LIKE WAYNE?

WAYNE IT'S ALWAYS WAYNE!

PANTON'S JEALOUSY OF BRUCE GREW AND GREW TILL FINALLY DURING A CLASS FENCING MATCH

GET YOU THAT TIME WAYNE... HA HA!

OW! MY WRIST!

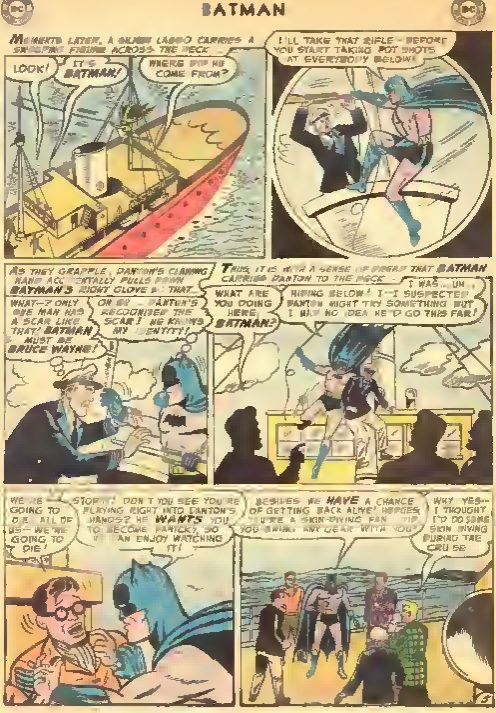
PANTON, THAT WAS THE LOWEST YET! YOU TOOK HIM BY SURPRISE WITHOUT EVEN PUTTING THE PROTECTIVE RUBBER TIP ON YOUR FOIL!

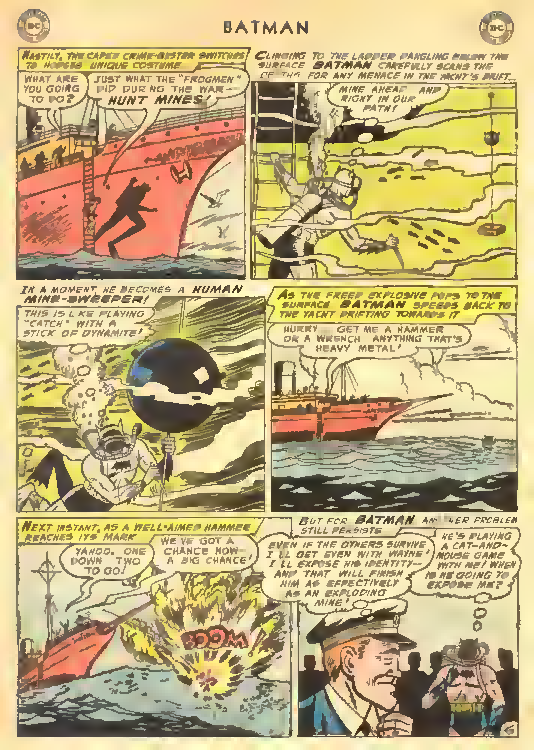
NEAR THAT DAY ON, AN OPP-SHAPED SCAR ON BRUCE'S WRIST WAS PERMANENT REMINDER OF PANTON'S

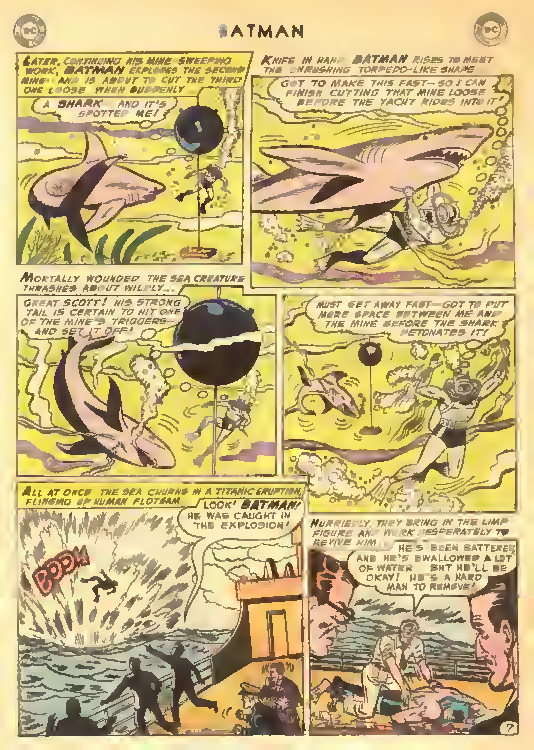
AFTER THIS UNSPORTSMANLIKE ACT BRUCE'S TEAMMATES SHUNNED PANTON AND HE GREW TO HATE THEM ALL.

YOU CAN'T TREAT ME LIKE I'M A NOBODY! SOME DAY I'LL GET EVEN WITH ALL OF YOU!


YES I SAID I'D GET EVEN WITH YOU SOME DAY AND THIS IS THE WAY! LOOK OUT THERE— WHAT DO YOU SEE?
GREAT SCOTT! IT'S A MINE THE KIND THEY USED DURING THE WAR!
QUICKLY, DANTON FIRES A BULLET AT THE MINE AND IT DETONATES WITH A THUNDEROUS ROAR!
EXACTLY— AND THIS BULLET WILL PROVE THAT WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY NEXT IS NO BLUFF!
THERE ARE TWO MORE MINES AHEAD— BUT I ANCHORED THEM SO THAT THEY FLOAT BELOW THE SURFACE AND CAN'T BE SEEN! THIS YACHT IS DRIFTING TOWARDS THEM NOW!
I'VE SMASHED THE RADIO AND DESTROYED THE VESSEL'S STEERING APPARATUS—SO THERE'S NO POSSIBLE WAY YOU CAN PREVENT THE INEVITABLE!
YOU FOOL—! WHAT ABOUT YOU? IF THIS YACHT BLOWS UP YOU'LL DIE TOO!
WHAT MATTERS IT TO ME THAT I HAVE A BAD HEART— THAT MY DAYS ARE NUMBERED ANYHOW! SO I MIGHT AS WELL BE NOW, AND TAKE YOU ALL WITH ME— HA HA!
WE'RE RAFTED ON A DOOMED SHIP WITH A CRAZED MAN! WHAT CAN WE DO?
THEY'RE SO WORRIED ABOUT TRYING TO SURVIVE THEY WON'T NOTICE IF I'M MISSING...
DOWN BELOW CHARLIE FREES HIS OTHER HAND...
A BAD PANIC SOMEBODY'S GOT TO TAKE CHARGE IN THIS EMERGENCY SOMEBODY THEY'LL OBEY WITHOUT QUESTION! THAT GOAL BOY WILL HAVE TO BE BATMAN!
4


MOMENTS LATER, A DIVER (LARGO) CARRIES A STRUGGLING FIGURE ACROSS THE DECK...
LOOK!
IT'S BATMAN!
WHERE DID HE COME FROM?
I'LL TAKE THAT RIFLE—BEFORE YOU START TAKING POT SHOTS AT EVERYBODY BELOW!
AS THEY GRAPPLE, DANTON'S CLAWING HAND ACCIDENTALLY PULLS FROM BATMAN'S RIGHT GLOVE A TRAT...
WHAT—? ONLY ONE MAN HAS A SCAR LIKE THAT! BATMAN MUST BE BRUCE WAYNE!
OR DID DANTON'S RECOGNIZED THE SCAR! HE KNOWS MY IDENTITY!
THUS, IT IS WITH A SENSE OF DREAD THAT BATMAN CARRIES DANTON TO THE DECK...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, BATMAN?
I WAS... UM... HIDING BELOW! I—I SUSPECTED DANTON MIGHT TRY SOMETHING BUT I HAD NO IDEA HE'D GO THIS FAR!
WE'RE GOING TO DIE! ALL OF US—WE'RE GOING TO DIE!
STOP IT! DON'T YOU SEE YOU'RE PLAYING RIGHT INTO DANTON'S HANDS? HE WANTS YOU TO BECOME PANICKY, SO HE CAN ENJOY WATCHING IT!
BESIDES, WE HAVE A CHANCE OF GETTING BACK ALIVE! HARPER—YOU'RE A SKIN-DIVING FAN, TOO! YOU BROUGHT ANY GEAR WITH YOU?
WHY, YES—I THOUGHT I'D DO SOME SKIN DIVING DURING THE CRUISE!


HASTILY, THE CAPTAIN CRIME-BUSTER SHUTTERS TO HIDE HIS UNIQUE COSTUME
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
JUST WHAT THE "FROGMEN" DID DURING THE WAR — HUNT MINES!
CLIMBING TO THE LADDER PARALLING PALSON THE SURFACE BATMAN CAREFULLY SCANS THE SEA FOR ANY MENACE IN THE YACHT'S DRIFT...
MINE AHEAD AND RIGHT IN OUR PATH!
IN A MOMENT, HE BECOMES A HUMAN MINE-SWEEPER!
THIS IS LIKE PLAYING "CATCH" WITH A STICK OF DYNAMITE!
AS THE FREED EXPLOSIVE POPS TO THE SURFACE, BATMAN SPEEDS BACK TO THE YACHT DRIFTING TOWARDS IT
HURRY... GET ME A HAMMER OR A WRENCH... ANYTHING THAT'S HEAVY METAL!
NEXT INSTANT, AS A WELL-AIMED HAMMER REACHES ITS MARK
YAHOO... ONE DOWN... TWO TO GO!
WE'VE GOT A CHANCE NOW... A BIG CHANCE!
BOOM!
BUT FOR BATMAN ANOTHER PROBLEM STILL PERSISTS...
EVEN IF THE OTHERS SURVIVE I'LL GET EVEN WITH WAYNE! I'LL EXPOSE HIS IDENTITY— AND THAT WILL FINISH HIM AS EFFECTIVELY AS AN EXPLODING MINE!
HE'S PLAYING A CAT-AND-MOUSE GAME WITH ME! WHEN I'M GOING TO EXPLODE MAT!


LATER, CONTINUING HIS MINE SWEEPING WORK, BATMAN EXPLORES THE SECOND MINE AND IS ABOUT TO CUT THE THIRD ONE LOOSE WHEN SUDDENLY
A SHARK AND IT'S SPOTTED ME!
KNIFE IN HAND, BATMAN RISES TO MEET THE UNRUSHING TORPEDO-LIKE SHAPE
GOT TO MAKE THIS FAST—SO I CAN FINISH CUTTING THAT MINE LOOSE BEFORE THE YACHT RIDES INTO IT!
MORTALLY WOUNDED, THE SEA CREATURE THRASHES ABOUT WILDLY...
GREAT SCOTT! HIS STRONG TAIL IS CERTAIN TO HIT ONE OF THE MINE'S TRIGGERS— AND SET IT OFF!
MUST GET AWAY FAST—GOT TO PUT MORE SPACE BETWEEN ME AND THE MINE BEFORE THE SHARK DETONATES IT!
ALL AT ONCE THE SEA CHURNS IN A TITANIC ERUPTION, FLINGING UP HUMAN FLOTSAM...
BOOM!
LOOK! BATMAN! HE WAS CAUGHT IN THE EXPLOSION!
HURRIEDLY, THEY BRING IN THE LIMP FIGURE AND WORK DESPERATELY TO REVIVE HIM...
HE'S BEEN BATTERED AND HE'S SWALLOWED A LOT OF WATER BUT HE'LL BE OKAY! HE'S A HARD MAN TO REMOVE!
17


BUT BATMAN'S BIGGEST PANIC IS FAR FROM OVER AS HE FINALLY KISSES TO HIS FEET!
YOU SAVED THEM BATMAN ... I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO'LL DIE! MY HEART IT'S GOING - SO I'VE GOT TO SAY WHAT I HAVE TO - QUICKLY!
THIS IS IT! HE'S GOING TO EXPOSE ME AS I'M!
I WANT TO TALK TO YOU - IN PRIVATE!
WHAT??
LATER, ALONE IN A CABIN...
I WON'T WANT THE OTHERS TO WEAR! I KNOW YOU ARE BRUCE WAYNE ... BUT I WANT YOUR SECRET TO DIE WITH ME!
WATCHING YOU RISK YOUR LIFE TO SAVE THE OTHERS - KNOWING YOU'VE DEDICATED YOURSELF TO THAT PURPOSE - MADE ME SUDDENLY REALIZE HOW SELFISH I'VE BEEN ALL MY LIFE!
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF MYSELF - NEVER OF OTHERS! MY OBSESSION CONTROLLED MY THINKING! TELL THE GANG I'M SORRY - I'LL TELL THEM - AND I KNOW THEY'LL FORGIVE YOU AS I DO!
ASK THEM TO FORGIVE ME
LATER WHEN A FISHING BOAT RESCUES THEM FROM THE CRIPPLED YACHT BATMAN BEGINS HIS CAREER AS BRUCE WAYNE AGAIN!
POOR CAROL BUT BATMAN SAID HE DIED HAPPY! HE ACTUALLY HAD A SMILE ON HIS FACE!
BY THE WAY, WHERE'S BATMAN GO TO? I DON'T SEE HIM ANYWHERE!
YOU KNOW HOW IT IS WITH BATMAN WHEN HIS WORK IS DONE. HE JUST DISAPPEARS! BUT IF YOU EVER NEED HIM I'M SURE HE'LL BE AROUND!
THE END

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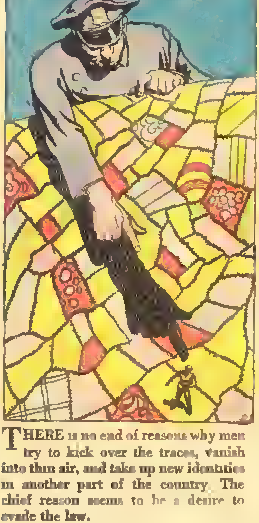
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CASEY
THE COP
OH—OH—
KEEP OFF
I'D BETTER CALL THE SARGE!
SARGE, THIS IS CASEY! THERE'S A BIG FIRE A MILE FROM HERE IT'S THE CIGARET FACTORY!
OKAY! BUT IF YOU'RE A MILE AWAY HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S THE CIGARET FACTORY?
OH IT'S EASY!
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He Tracks Disappearing Acts

In Tracing Missing Persons, the Sleuth Uses Many Devices to Catch Up with the Fugitive



THERE is no end of reasons why men try to kick over the traces, vanish into thin air, and take up new identities in another part of the country. The chief reason seems to be a desire to evade the law.

Unfortunately for these men who pull vanishing acts, there is similarly no end of ways in which detectives who specialize in tracing missing persons catch up with them.

Take the case of an auto mechanic who, not long ago, helped himself to funds belonging to the garage for which he worked. He left his place of employment one short step ahead of the police, and hit out at once for parts unknown.

Operating on the theory that if he didn't stay too long in any one place nobody could possibly catch up with him, he kept moving from one city to the next, taking jobs with one garage after another, and all under assumed names.

But, to his astonishment, he found himself in the clutches of the tracking lawman in the 14th city he had moved to since he first started fleeing.

What was the clue that led the detective to his doorstep? His mistake in sticking to his trade! For once the sleuth became aware of the pattern all he did was blanket garages throughout that entire area with photos of the wanted man, and sit back and wait.

One day, the detective received a message from a garage owner to the effect that the man in the photo had applied for a job. The arrest was made that evening.

A large number of men leave fake suicide notes before they disappear. By this device, they hope to discourage the usual search for a "living" person. What they don't know is that skip-tracing detectives pay little heed to suicide notes in the absence of the suicide's body.

A recent "suicide" was a manufac-

turer who had gambled away most of the assets of his corporation's property. This man went to a lot of trouble to make it look real

After writing a farewell note to one of his business associates, he drove his car to the beach and hired a boat. When he failed to return, the owner of the boat reported it to the police. A further check revealed the suicide note, a still further check revealed the reason for his apparent act

But the detective assigned to the case was not at all satisfied. Digging into the man's background, he found what later proved to be two important clues. First, he learned that the man had no particular skill. This meant it would be difficult for him to find a job. Second, he learned that the man was a veteran of World War I, and had never applied for the bonus due him.

Throughout the years that followed, the detective made it a point to check with the Veterans Administration. His patience paid off. Seven years after the supposed drowning, the man applied for his bonus payment. The news was relayed to the detective at once, and several days later the lawman tapped the amazed "suicide" on the shoulder in the store where he worked as a clerk

Although skip-tracing sleuths have developed a technique all their own in track missing persons, much of their success depends on their ability to observe small details. A detective was once assigned to keep an eye on a valuable witness needed to testify in a criminal case for the prosecution. The district attorney had reason to believe that the witness, who was known to have underworld connections, might skip out.

The witness was informed that he could remain at liberty pending the start of the trial if he made no attempt to leave town. The detective was to make periodic visits to see that this arrangement was carried out.

During one such visit, the detective strolled into the bedroom. Opening a dresser drawer, he noticed that the witness's articles were neatly stacked, as one would do preparatory to packing them in a valise. The witness was taken in for safekeeping. He later admitted that he had intended to leave town

In tracing a missing person, the detective tries to find out as much of the subject's background as possible. Recently, a middle aged man left home one morning on his way to work. Not only did he fail to arrive at work, but his wife reported that he had failed to return home that evening.

Police were completely puzzled as to the man's motive. He seemed to have led a happy life at home, and his relations with his employer were excellent. No hint of trouble of any kind in the man's life, and no sign of foul play—yet, the man vanished without leaving a trace of his whereabouts, nor a motive for his disappearance if voluntary!

The detective assigned to the case went back into the man's past life. He learned that years before the missing man had acted briefly in a few plays. When he married, he gave up the stage.

The detective began a systematic reading of the country's theater magazines and newspapers. Months later, he found what he was seeking—a notice that the missing man was cast in a play on the west coast. Weeks later, the detective and the man's wife sat in the audience watching the "missing man" do what he had yearned to do for years—go back to his first love, the theater!

—Jack E. Miller

THE SWIRL OF A FIRE-SIREN, THE CLANG OF AN ALARM, THE THUNDER OF RACING FIRE-TRUCKS— AND BATMAN AND ROBIN, THE BOY WONDER, ANSWER ANOTHER CALL TO ACTION! YES, FOR GOOD REASONS THE DYNAMIC DUO SWITCH ITS ACTIVITIES FROM THE POLICE TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT! AND ALL THEIR SLEUTHING SKILL BECOMES CHALLENGED BY FLAMING MYSTERY WHEN URGENT BANGER SOUNDS

THE THIRD ALARM FOR BATMAN!

BAT-MAN
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

IT'S THE NEW BAT-ALARM! ANOTHER JOB FOR US AS FIRE DETECTIVES!

BONG

BONG

IT WAS ONLY A MATCH, CARELESSLY TOSSED AWAY...

...BUT IT SPARKED A DEVASTATING HOLOCAUST

UNNECESSARY FIRES LIKE THIS COST FORTUNES AND LIVES! WELL, I HAVE A PLAN TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!


A FEW DAYS LATER, IN POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...
I SUGGEST GOTHAM CITY HOLD A FIRE PREVENTION WEEK TO STOP THESE UNNECESSARY BLAZES! BATMAN AND ROBIN COULD HELP US A LOT!
WE'D SURE LIKE TO CO-OPERATE BUT
WE'RE TRYING TO FIND OUT HOW MERCHANDISE STOLEN IN GOTHAM CITY IS BEING SMUGGLED TO DISTANT CITIES! THAT'S A SERIOUS MATTER RIGHT NOW!
THE DEPARTMENT WILL KEEP ON THAT PROBLEM, BATMAN! I WANT YOU TO FEEL FREE TO HELP FIRE-CHIEF WALLER!
THEN YOU CAN COUNT ON US, CHIEF!
GOOD! FIRST, I NEED YOU TWO TO HELP PUBLICIZE OUR FIRE PREVENTION WEEK BY ACTING AS FIRE DETECTIVES! I'LL EXPLAIN
SOON, THE DYNAMIC DUO CONVERTS THE FAMED BATMOBILE INTO A FIREMOBILE!
ACCORDING TO THE SIGNAL-CODE THE FIRE'S IN THE SECTION NEAR THE GOTHAM CENTRAL RAILROAD YARDS!
WOW! I ALWAYS DID LIKE TO FOLLOW FIRE-ENGINES!
GO, AS FIRE DETECTIVES WE'RE TO DISCOVER THE CAUSES BEHIND ACCIDENTAL FIRES! IT'S AN ODD KIND OF SLEUTHING!
BUT IMPORTANT! UNNECESSARY FIRES COST INSURANCE COMPANIES MILLIONS!
BUT LISTEN, THAT'S THE BAT-ALARM THAT CHIEF WALLER FIXED UP ESPECIALLY FOR US! COME ON!
BUT IT'S A GRIM SPECTACLE THAT CONFRONTS THE TWO NEW FIRE-SLEUTHS!
BATMAN, LOOK! PILES OF TIES BESIDE THE YARDS HAVE BEEN SET AFIRE TO THE WOODEN BOX CARS!
THE FIREMEN ARE ALREADY HOSING DOWN THE CARS!
THEY'RE DOING ALL THEY CAN, BUT I'M AFRAID THE FIRE'S GOT A GOOD START!
I'LL HELP THEM! YOU SEARCH FOR CLUES!
2

SUDDENLY, A PERILOUS PROBLEM CONFRONTS THE FIRE-CHIEF...

HEH, PLAY-BLUE HOSES ON THE BOX-CARS - THE RAILROAD WORKERS SAY THERE ARE CARS OF EXPLOSIVES IN THIS YARD!

ANYTHING WE CAN DO, CHIEF?

YES! SEE IF YOU CAN GET THE RAILROAD MEN TO HAUL THESE BURNING BOX-CARS OUT BEFORE THE FIRE REACHES THE EXPLOSIVES CARS!

RIGHT!

THE SWITCH-ENGINE CREWS HURRIED OVER TO HELP FIGHT THE FIRE... I'M TRYING TO GET THEM BACK HERE!

NO TIME FOR THAT - ROBIN AND I WILL DO IT!

SECONDS LATER, A SWITCH-ENGINE ROARS INTO LIFE, SWIFTLY BACKING TOWARD FLAMING FREIGHT-CARS!

WE'VE HOOKED ON, BATMAN!

THEN BE READY TO ACT FAST - WE'RE GOING TO HIGHBALL CLEAR OF THAT WATER-TOWER!

SOON, AT THE TOWER THAT SUPPLIES WATER TO LOCOMOTIVES...

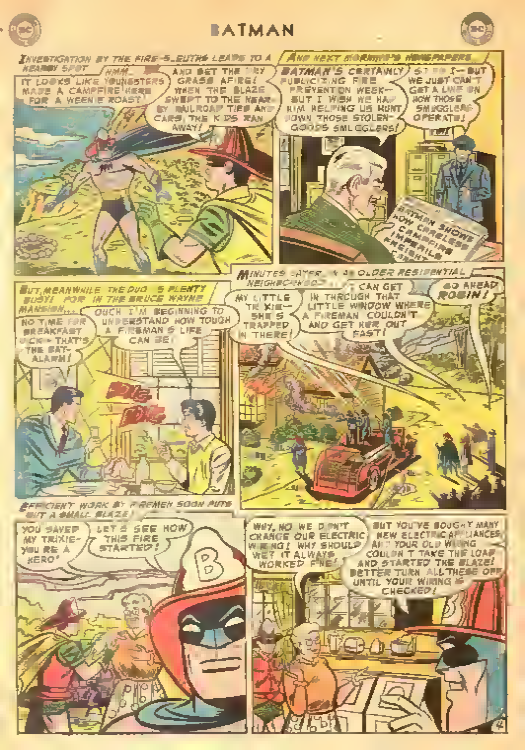
GOT IT!

I'LL GIVE EACH BURNING CAR A FULL WETTING DOWN!

THEN, WITH THE BURNING BOX-CARS EXTINGUISHED, THE FIRE FORCE EFFICIENT FIREMEN ALREADY HAVE THE MAIN BLAZE UNDER CONTROL!

GOOD WORK, BATMAN - BUT YOUR REAL JOB IS TO FIND OUT WHAT STARTED THIS BLAZE! IT SEEMS IT BEGAN IN THE DRY GRASS AND SPREAD TO THE PILES OF TIES AND THEN THE BOX-CARS!

WE'LL FIND OUT WHAT WE CAN!


INVESTIGATION BY THE FIRE-S.-RUTHS LEADS TO A GARRY SPOT
HMM... IT LOOKS LIKE YOUNGSTERS MADE A CAMPFIRE HERE FOR A WEEN-IE ROAST!
AND SET THE DRY GRASS AFIRE!
WHEN THE BLAZE SWEPT TO THE NEAR-BY RAILROAD TIES AND CARS, THE KIDS RAN AWAY!
AND NEXT MORNING'S NEWSPAPERS
BATMAN'S CERTAINLY DONE A GOOD JOB!
PUBLIC NO FIRE PREVENTION WEEK-BUT I WISH WE HAD HIM HELPING US HUNT DOWN THOSE STOLEN-GOODS SMUGGLERS!
WE JUST CAN'T GET A LINE ON HOW THOSE SMUGGLERS OPERATE!
TUT!
BUT MEANWHILE THE DUO IS PLENTY BUSY! FOR IN THE BRUCE WAYNE MANSION...
OUCH! I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND HOW TOUGH A FIREMAN'S LIFE CAN BE!
NO TIME FOR BREAKFAST! QUICK- THAT'S THE BAT-ALARM!
BRRRRRRRRRR
MINUTES LATER, IN AN OLDER RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOOD...
MY LITTLE TYKE- SHE'S TRAPPED IN THERE!
I CAN GET IN THROUGH THAT LITTLE WINDOW WHERE A FIREMAN COULDN'T AND GET HER OUT FAST!
GO AHEAD ROBIN!
EFFICIENT WORK BY FIREMEN SOON PUTS OUT A SMALL BLAZE!
YOU SAVED MY TRIXIE- YOU'RE A HERO!
LET'S SEE HOW THIS FIRE STARTED!
B
PHOOEY!
WHY, NO WE DON'T CHANGE OUR ELECTRIC WIRING! WE SHOULD WET IT ALWAYS WORKED FINE!
BUT YOU'VE BOUGHT MANY NEW ELECTRIC APPLIANCES AND YOUR OLD WIRING COULDN'T TAKE THE LOAD AND STARTED THE BLAZE! BETTER TURN ALL THESE OFF UNTIL YOUR WIRING IS CHECKED!


SUDDENLY, GRIM NEWS FROM THE FIRE CAPTAIN!--
BATMAN, A THIRD ALARM FROM THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT!
WE'RE ON OUR WAY-- SOUNDS SERIOUS!
CLANG!
THAT CAR JUST GOT OUT OF THE WAY IN TIME!
A FIREMAN RISKS HIS LIFE EVERY TIME HE HURRIES TO A FIRE-- WHICH IS ANOTHER REASON WHY PEOPLE OUGHT TO BE CAREFUL!
WHEEEEE
CLANG CLANG
YOUR MEN KNOW THEIR JOBS AND WE DON'T WANT TO GET IN THEIR WAY, BUT WE'LL DO ANYTHING WE CAN!
NOBODY NEEDS TO TEACH YOU TWO CLIMBING-- YOU CAN HELP TAKE THE EMERGENCY ESCAPES AND LUG UP TO PEOPLE TRAPPED ON THE UPPER FLOORS!
DON'T GET PANICKY-- PANIC KILLS MORE PEOPLE THAN FLAMES! YOU'LL ALL GET DOWN SAFELY!
LOOK HOW THE INSIDE-MEN IN SMOKE-HELMETS ARE GETTING THE BLAZE OUT-- WHAT A JOB THESE FIREMEN DO!
AND SOON, WITH ANOTHER MENACING HOLOCAUST AVERTED--
YES, IT STARTED IN OUR APARTMENT SOMEHOW! AND JUST AFTER I'D FINISHED REDECORATING!
I MEAN YOU PAINTED ITS WALLS! WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THE PAINT-SMEARED AND OILY RAGS YOU HAD LEFT?
WHY, I JUST PUT THEM IN A CLOSET UNTIL THE TRASH-COLLECTOR CAME!
DON'T YOU KNOW THAT PAINT-SOAKED GREASY RAGS LIKE THAT CAN START FIRES? YOU COULD HAVE LOST YOUR OWN LIFE AND ALL THESE OTHERS, IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THE FIREMEN!


COMMISSIONER GORDON IS ALSO ON HAND AT THE BIG FIRE
I SEE YOU TWO ARE DOING FINE AS FIRE-DETECTIVES - BUT THOSE STOLEN GOODS SMUGGLERS ARE STILL UNCAUGHT! I'LL BE GLAD WHEN YOU'RE BACK WITH US!
WE FAILED TO FIND THEM BEFORE BUT WE'LL SURE TRY AGAIN!
AND AS THE WEARY AND SMOKE-GRIMED TWO JOINED REGARDS...
IT PUZZLES ME - HOW COULD SUCH QUANTITIES OF LOOT BE MOVED OUT OF GOTHAM CITY, WHEN EVERY HIGHWAY AND RAILWAY IS WATCHED?
WHAT'S THAT - ANOTHER BAT-ALARM? OH SORRY BATMAN - GUESS I WAS DROWNING! AFTER A DAY WITH THE FIRE-FIGHTERS I'LL BE GLAD TO GET A LONG REST!
AND AFTER A SWIFT LEAP INTO COSTUME...
GOOD THING WE INSTALLED THIS FIRE-ALARM BOX SYSTEM THE SECRET STAIR SAVES SECONDS!
THAT SIGNAL'S FOR A WATERFRONT FIRE. THE FIREBOATS ARE GOING OUT - I'VE GOT TO HURRY
BUT THE BOY WONDER - PLUNGES IS SWIFTLY CLAD
BONG BONG BONG BONG
AS THE CYCLE-BOAT RACES UP VER PAST THE GOTHAM CITY WATERFRONT
AT THE FIREBOAT DOCKS
IT'S A BIG FIRE UP-RIVER - THE OTHER FIREBOATS HAVE ALREADY GONE!
FULL SPEED AHEAD!
LOOK AT THAT SMOKE AHEAD - THAT'S AN OIL-FIRE!
THAT YACHT CLUB COULD BE THE ANSWER TO OUR MYSTERY! BUT NO TIME TO FOLLOW THAT UP NOW WITH WHAT'S AHEAD OF US!
6

THE ARSONISTS HOPED THE WATER HOSES HIT WOULD THE INTENSE FIRE EXTINGUISH!
"THE BURNING OIL HAS FLOWED OUT ONTO THE RIVER!
WATER WON'T PUT IT OUT! USE THE FOAM EXTINGUISHERS!
WHEN THE BATTLE WITH FLAMES HAD BEEN WON, BATMAN AND ROBIN SOON PINPOINT THE CAUSE OF THE "BLAZE!
YES, THIS WORKER ADMITS HE IGNORED THE "NO SMOKING" SIGN-- AND STARTED IT ALL!
WE HAVE THROWN FIRE-MEN BURNING AND THEY COULD HAVE BEEN KILLED-- BECAUSE YOU WOULDN'T OBEY A SAFETY REGULATION!
SOON, BATMAN DISCLOSES A DISCOVERY.
DO YOU THINK THAT SMALL YACHT-CLUB MAY BE CONNECTED WITH THE STOLEN CHINA SMUGGLING? WHY?
IT HAS A CARGO-CRANE ON ITS PIER, WHICH IT WOULDN'T NEED IF IT WERE REALLY A PLEASURE CLUB! I'M GOING T' VISIT IT AS BRUCE WAYNE-- YOU STAND BY IN CASE THE BAT-ALARM SOUNDS!
PRESENTLY, BRUCE WAYNE, WEALTHY SPORTSMAN, FINDS HIMSELF STRANGELY DISINCLINED BY THE EARTH YACHT CLUB!
YES, MR. BALL, I'D LIKE TO TRANSFER FROM THE GOTHAM YACHT CLUB TO YOUR CLUB-- I'M GOING TO KEELHAUL THE SINNACLE OF MY CRAFT AND THIS WOULD BE A HANDIER PLACE FOR ME!
I UNDERSTAND, MR. WAYNE-- BUT OUR MEMBERSHIP LIST IS ALREADY FULL! SORRY!
AND FICTION SOON CHANGES TO CERTAINTY!
AS BRUCE WAYNE SWITCHES TO HIS SECRET IDENTITY OF BATMAN AND WATCHES, HIS SUSPICIONS DEEPEN..
I TALKED NAUTICAL NONSENSE TO HIM AND HE DIDN'T KNOW IT, SO HE'S A NO YACHTSMAN! MAYBE THEY COULD SMUGGLE STOLEN LOOT IN "PLEASURE YACHTS" FROM HERE, BUT COULDN'T KEEP IT STORED IN THAT SMALL CLUBHOUSE! I'LL FOLLOW MR. BALL!
THOSE ARMED THUGS--THEY'RE IN GUARD HERE, SO THEY MUST BE GUARDING THE LOOT THAT'S SMUGGLED THROUGH THE YACHT-CLUB! I'M SURE OF IT! BUT IT'LL BE RISKY TO GET PROOF!
BRUCE


AT MIDNIGHT, IN THE GRANGER WAREHOUSE...
ALL RIGHT WE'RE HUNTING AT
WHAT'S THAT SOUND? A FIRE-ENGINE! AND IT SOUNDS LIKE THE FIRE'S NEAR HERE!
CLANG CLANG
MOVING
GET THIS LOAD TO THE YACHT CLUB, FAST! THE YACHTS ARE WAITING TO TAKE IT OFF!
WE'LL BACK YOU UP, BATMAN!
I DOUBLE CROSS THUGS READY TO BELT THE BAT OF COURT CRASH TO THIS WAREHOUSE BY SURPRISE!
WHY, THE FIRE-ENGINES ARE STOPPING HERE! BUT WE AIN'T AFIRE ARE WE?
LOOK OUT BEHIND YOU—BATMAN AND ROBIN!
START BACK! WE'LL GET THEM!
OH NO YOU WON'T BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE FIREMEN NOW—
AND WE'RE FIREMEN HELP EACH OTHER!
THANKS PAL!
AND SOON
YOU WON'T HAVE TO LOOK FURTHER FOR THE LOOT SMUGGLERS COMMISSIONER—THE FIREMEN BOUNCED THEM UP!
WHAT HAVE I MISSED IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT?
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
THE BAT ALARM! QUICK THE FIRE! OH GUESS I JUST CAN'T FORGET MY HABITS SO SOON!


CASEY
THE COP
THIS IS THE SECOND TIME THIS MONTH WE'VE BEEN ROBBED OFFICER!
NO DOORS WERE FORCED THIS WINDOW WASN'T JIMMIED, EMM.
I'LL TURN MY REPORT IN AND WE'LL GET SOME DETECTIVES UP HERE!
HAVE THEM COME TOMORROW — I'M CLOSING UP FOR THE DAY!
AND.
WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE DOING?
WHAT I ALWAYS DO AT THE END OF THE DAY— LEAVE THE KEY UNDER THE MAT!
END

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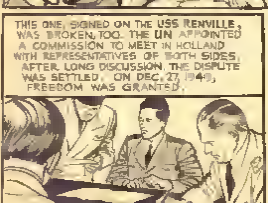
LIKE THE PEOPLE OF THE U.S.A. IN 1776, THE INDONESIANS LONGED FOR FREEDOM AND SELF-GOVERNMENT. WHEN WAR ENDED, AUG. 1945, THEY PROCLAIMED INDEPENDENCE.



THE DUTCH RETURNED. FIGHTINGS BEGAN. ONE AGREEMENT WAS MADE, AND BROKEN. THEN THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL ORDERED A CEASE FIRE AND SENT A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO JAVA TO HELP GET ANOTHER AGREEMENT.



THIS ONE, SIGNED ON THE USS RENVILLE, WAS BROKEN, TOO. THE U.N. APPOINTED A COMMISSION TO MEET IN HOLLAND WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH SIDES. AFTER LONG DISCUSSION, THE DISPUTE WAS SETTLED. ON DEC. 27, 1949, FREEDOM WAS GRANTED.



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